

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-10 remain in this application. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 are hereby amended. Claims 2 and 6 are hereby canceled without prejudice to further possible prosecution in a continuation or continuation-in-part application. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 USC 112

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for reasons of enablement for steps (d) and (e) of original claim 1. This rejection is hereby traversed with respect to the amended claims.

In discussing the rejection, the Examiner comments as follows. "The specification sets forth that the basis of this invention is that by comparing two or more regions that overlap in a particular image frame with the same image regions in a different image frame that do not overlap it is possible to determine the relative z-order of the image regions." Examiner further remarks, "It is the comparison between an overlapped condition of an image region in one frame with newly visible portions of the image region in another frame that determine z-ordering"

Claim 1 is hereby amended in accordance with the Examiner's comments so as to overcome the enablement rejection. Original steps (d) and (e) in claim 1 (reciting elements involving "relative offsets") are deleted. Inserted into claim 1 is a revised step (d) that recites as follows.

(d) comparing an overlapped condition between the first and second segments in one of said image frames with newly visible portions in the other of said image frames to determine relative z-ordering between the first and second segments.

The revised step (d) echoes the above-discussed remarks by the Examiner.

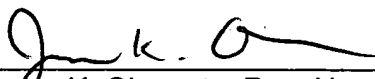
The revised step (d) is supported in various places in the specification. For example, the Summary of the Invention in the original specification recites, "The basis of this invention is that by comparing two or more image regions that overlap in a particular frame, with the same image regions in a different image frame where they do not overlap, it is possible to determine the relative z-ordering of the image regions."

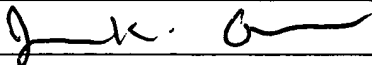
Conclusion

For the above-discussed reasons, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-5 and 7-10 are now in patentable form. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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